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Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 FRB-03 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 L-02 LAB-04

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-01

TAR-01 TRSE-00 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 FEA-01

/098 W
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R 141546Z FEB 75
FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 445
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652 N/A
TAGS: ETRD, GATT, DA
SUBJECT: MTN: DANISH INDUSTRY VIEWS

REF: COPENHAGEN 356

1. THE MORE CAUTIOUS APPROACH TOWARD MULTILA-
TERAL TRADE NEGOTIATIONS(MTN) BEING TAKEN BY
THE DANISH GOVERNMENT(REFTEL) IS SHARED ALSO
BY INDUSTRY AS REFLECTED THIS WEEK IN A NEWS
PAPER ARTICLE BY AN OFFICIAL OF THE FEDERATION
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OF DANISH INDUSTRIES (FDI) AFTER A GENERAL

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REVIEW OF THE GATT MECHANISMS. THE FDI OFFICIAL
NOTED THAT THE MOST CRUCIAL CURRENT ECONOMIC
PROBLEMS OF ENERGY INFLATION AND RECESSION
REMAIN OUTSIDE OF THE GATT AREA OF COMPETENCE.
IN CONTRACT,MTN ISSUES AS SEEN BY WESTERN
INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES, CONCERN MARGINAL PROB
LEMS ONLY. NONETHELESS HE CONCEDED THAT THE
MTNS MIGHT PROVIDE MORAL STRENGTHENING AGAINST
REVERSIOH TO TRADE PROTECTIONISM.

2. WITH REGARD TO DENMARK'S SPECIFIC INTERESTS
THE FDI OFFICIAL SAID THAT THESE ARE NOT THE
SAME DURING THE PRESENT TOKYO ROUND AS IN PRE
VIOUS TRADE NEGOTIATIONS. HE OBSERVED THAT
DENMARK'S EC AND EFTA RELATIONSHIPS PROVIDE
IT WITH A PREFERENTIAL TRADING AREA COVERING
75 PERCENT OF INDUSTRIAL EXPORTS AND IMPORTS.
THEREFORE HE FELT THAT MANY DANISH INDUSTRIES
WOULD BE MORE INTERESTED IN PRESERVING THESE
PREFERENCES THAN IN GAINING GARIFF CONCESSIONS
IN MARGINAL MARKETS (US AND JAPAN EXCLUDED)
WHILE SEEING SOME POSSIBILITIES OF VENEFITS
IN NTB NEGOTIATIONS, THE
FDI OFFICIAL WAS GENERALLY RATHER PESSIMISTIC
ON OBTAINING SIGNIFICANT OVERALL RESULTS FROM
THE MTN'S IN EITHER THE INDUSTRIAL AND AGRICULTURAL
AREAS ALTHOUGH HE THOUGH THERE WAS SOME
HOPE FOR ESTABLISHING A MORE ORDERLY WORLD TRADE
IN FARM PRODUCTS.

3. THE FDI OFFICIAL TOLD US THAT HIS ARTICLE
REFLECTED THE VIEWS HE BELIEVED SHARED BY MOST
OF DANISH INDUSTRY. HE SAID HOWEVER THAT
THE MORE PREVISE INDUSTRY POSITIONS ON THE MTNS
HAVE YET TO BE ESTABLISHED. AN INQUIRY CINCU
LARIZED BY THE FDI TO INDUSTRY BRACHES CONCERN
ING POSITIONS TO BE TAKEN BY COMMODITIES OF
SPECIAL INTEREST TO DANISH INDUSTRY HAS THUS
FAR HAD LIMITED RESPONSE. THE OFFICIAL SAID
THAT THE FDI WILL BE MEETING LATER THIS MONTH
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WITH THE GOVERNMENT TO ESTABLISH PROCEDURES
FOR GOVERNMENT/INDUSTRY CONSULTATIONS DURING
THE MTN'S HE BELIEVED HOWEVER THAT IT MAY
TAKE SOME TIME FOR INDUSTRY TO ORGANIZE ITSELF
FOR MEANINGFUL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE GOVERNMENT.

4. EMBASSY COMMENT: BOTH WITHIN AND OUTSIDE
OF GOVERNMENT, THE DANES HAVE BEEN MOVING IN

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A DESULTORY FASHION IN PREPARATION OF POSITIONS
FOR TY MTNS. THEY HAVE BEEN PLEASED BY THE
LACK OF OUTSIDE PRESSURES TO FORCE THE PACE.
THEY APPEAR TO HAVE USED THE TIME SINCE THE
TOKYO MEETING TO RETHINK THEIR BASIC APPROACH
TO THE MTN'S AND SEEMED TO HAVE CONCLUDED THAT
THEY HAVE NOT MUCH TO GAIN IN ANY TRADE LIBER
ALIZATION RESULTING FROM THESE NEGOTITATIONS.
WE BELIEVE, THEREFORE, THAT WE WILL FIND IT MORE
DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN DANISH SUPPORT FOR US
MTN POSITION IN THE TOKYO ROUND THAN WE DID
IN PREVIOUS ROUNDS.
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